

Dissemination and Implementation in Embedded Pragmatic Trials: Science-Powered Strategies to Sustain and Spread Effective Interventions

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Speaker Biographies



Hayden B. Bosworth, PhD

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Hayden B. Bosworth, PhD, is a health services researcher and implementation scientist. He is currently a professor of population health sciences, medicine, psychiatry, and nursing at Duke University and the vice chair of research in the Department of Population Health Sciences. He is also the deputy director of the Center of Innovation to Accelerate Discovery and Practice Transformation (ADAPT) (COIN) at the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center and adjunct professor in the Department of Health Policy and Administration in the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research interests comprise 3 overarching areas of research: 1) conducting clinical research that improves chronic disease self-management care; 2) implementing research to improve access to quality of care; and 3) eliminating health care disparities. Dr. Bosworth has expertise in developing and implementing scalable/sustainable interventions to improve health behaviors and reduce the burden of chronic diseases. These trials/programs focus on motivating individuals to initiate health behaviors and sustain them long term. He also has ample experience in conducting observational studies examining healthcare use and predictors of medication nonadherence. Examples of his work include a multisite trial evaluating a nurse-administered intervention to extend the HIV treatment cascade for cardiovascular disease prevention (EXTRA-CVD) and a similar study being conducted in the VA (VA-EXTRA-CVD). He is the recipient of a new grant, The Pharmacists for Prevention (P4P) project, funded through the NIH RFA-MH-25-185 mechanism, aims to integrate HIV prevention and implementation science training into pharmacy school curricula across minority-serving institutions in the South to expand access to PrEP and related services.

Dr. Bosworth is the recipient of numerous awards, including an American Heart Association Established Investigator award, a VA Senior Career Scientist Award, and the Under-Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research. He has been the principal investigator of over 30 trials resulting in over 500 peer-reviewed publications and 4 books. His work has been implemented in Medicaid of North Carolina, the UK National Health System, Kaiser Permanente, the Veterans Health Administration, as well as by a number of health care payers such as Humana.

In addition to his research experience, mentoring is an area to which he has devoted significant effort. He has mentored over 170 graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty, including 40

career development awardees over the last 10 years. In addition, he was the principal investigator of a K12 National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute–funded grant to train faculty in dissemination and implementation.



Diana Burgess, PhD

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Diana Burgess, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Minnesota and Director of the VA Advanced Fellowship Program in Health Services Research at the Center for Care Delivery and Outcomes Research at the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. She is also the director of the Complementary and Integrative Health Evaluation Center in the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. Her research is aimed at increasing the use of non-pharmacological and complementary and integrative health approaches for chronic pain in healthcare systems, with a focus on groups that experience disparities.



Julie Fritz, PhD, PT

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Julie Fritz, PhD, PT, is a distinguished professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training and the associate dean for research in the College of Health at the University of Utah located in Salt Lake City. Her research has focused on examining nonpharmacologic treatments for individuals with spinal pain, including clinical trials and health services research. Currently, Dr. Fritz is leading projects funded by PCORI and the NIH including projects funded under the NIH HEAL Initiative addressing pain management and opioid use. She also leads a trial within the NIH-VA-DoD Pain Management Collaboratory investigating nonpharmacologic pain management in the Military Health System.



Beda Jean-Francois, PhD

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Beda Jean-Francois, PhD, is a program director in the Clinical Research Branch in the Division of Extramural Research of the NCCIH. She oversees a portfolio of clinical research, including health disparities, pediatric research on mental and emotional well-being, maternal morbidity and mortality, and pragmatic clinical trials. Additionally, she contributes to the Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral (MEB) initiatives as well as the NIH Pragmatic Trials Collaboratory, the NIH HEAL Initiative, and the Pragmatic and Implementation Studies for the Management of Pain to Reduce Opioid Prescribing (PRISM) program.

Dr. Jean-Francois is especially passionate about reducing children's health disparities. Other research interests include life-course perspective on health and disease, behavioral health prevention services, health information technology, reproductive health equity, and childhood obesity. Before joining NCCIH, Dr. Jean-Francois served as an NIH health scientist administrator at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) since 2017. While at NIMHD, she served as a co-lead for the data coordinating center for the trans-NIH Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (RADxUP), which is a consortium of more than 85 multidisciplinary grantees working to target disparities

in COVID-19 morbidity and mortality. She developed multiple funding opportunities, including Effectiveness of School-Based Health Centers to Advance Health Equity, Addressing Racial Disparities in Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, and Leveraging Health Information Technology to Address Health Disparities. Additionally, she served as project scientist for Center of Excellence research grants to promote research in health disparities and the training of a diverse scientific workforce.



Vincent Mor, PhD

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Vincent Mor, PhD, is a professor of health services, policy & practice and Florence Pirce Grant Professor in the Brown University School of Public Health, and has been principal investigator of 40+ NIH-funded grants focusing on use of health services and outcomes of frail and chronically ill people. He has evaluated the impact of programs and policies including Medicare funding of hospice, changes in Medicare nursing home payment, and the introduction of nursing home quality measures. He co-authored the Congressionally-mandated Minimum Data Set (MDS) and was architect of an integrated Medicare claims and clinical assessment data structure used for policy analysis, pharmaco-epidemiology and population outcome measurement. Dr. Mor developed summary measures using MDS data to characterize residents' physical, cognitive and psycho-social functioning. These data resources are the heart of Dr. Mor's NIA-funded Program Project Grant, "Changing Long Term Care in America," which examines the impact of Medicaid and Medicare policies on long-term care. These data are also at the core of a series of large, pragmatic cluster randomized trials of novel nursing home-based interventions led by Dr. Mor.

Dr. Mor is one of the Principal Investigators of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) **IMbedded Pragmatic Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and AD-Related Dementias (AD/ADRD) Clinical Trials (IMPACT) Collaboratory** which was established in 2019 to meet the urgent public health need to deliver high quality, evidence-based care to people living with dementia (PLWD) and their care partners within the healthcare systems (HCS) that serve them. The Mission of IMPACT is to build the nation's capacity to conduct pragmatic clinical trials of interventions embedded within health care systems for people living with dementia and their care partners.



Stephanie Morain, PhD, MPH

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Stephanie Morain, PhD, MPH is the Dracopoulos Rising Professor of Bioethics in the Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins and Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. She conducts both empirical and normative research into issues at the intersection of clinical research, public health, and health policy. Dr. Morain's work examines political and ethical issues concerning the scope of government authority in public health and the role of stakeholder opinion in shaping decision-making in public health policy. Dr. Morain's work focuses on two key areas: ethical and practical challenges presented by the integration of research and care, such as occurs in pragmatic clinical trials and in comparative effectiveness research, and issues related to women's reproductive health. Dr. Morain is the Co-Chair of the Ethics & Regulatory Core for the NIH

Pragmatic Trials Collaboratory, and Executive Committee Member of the Ethics & Regulation Core for the NIA IMPACT Collaboratory.



Lanay Mudd, PhD

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Lanay M. Mudd, Ph.D., is deputy branch chief for the Clinical Research in Complementary and Integrative Health Branch in the Division of Extramural Research at the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH). She joined NCCIH as a program director in 2015. As deputy branch chief, Dr. Mudd assists Dr. Wendy Weber to coordinate NCCIH's Clinical Trial Specific Funding Opportunities. Dr. Mudd also serves as the NCCIH training director and provides oversight and direction for NCCIH's training and career development portfolio. She is the NCCIH co-coordinator for the NIH Common Fund Bridge to Artificial Intelligence program.

At NCCIH, Dr. Mudd oversees a grant portfolio of clinical trials; studies of movement meditation, including yoga, tai chi, and qi gong; research on health promotion, disease prevention, and resilience; and studies of remotely delivered or mHealth interventions. Dr. Mudd's interests include the use of mind and body interventions for perinatal health conditions, mental health conditions, and promoting healthy behaviors.

Dr. Mudd earned a dual-major doctoral degree in kinesiology and epidemiology and completed postdoctoral training in perinatal epidemiology at Michigan State University. Prior to joining NCCIH, she was an assistant professor of kinesiology at Michigan State University, where her research investigated the health benefits of physical activity during pregnancy and the development of interventions to improve health behaviors among pregnant women. She has published in a variety of peer reviewed journals, including *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*, *Pediatrics*, *Journal of Physical Activity & Health*, and *Preventive Medicine*. Dr. Mudd is a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine.



Emily O'Brien, PhD

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Dr. Emily O'Brien is Associate Professor in Population Health Sciences, Associate Professor in Neurology, Core Faculty Member at Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy, and Co-Director of Population Health Sciences at the Duke Clinical Research Institute. Her research focuses on comparative effectiveness, patient-centered outcomes, and pragmatic health systems research in cardiovascular and pulmonary disease. Her areas of expertise include: Epidemiology, Pragmatic Clinical Trials, and Clinical Decision Sciences. Dr. O'Brien received her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. As principal investigator for projects funded by the FDA, NIH, and PCORI, she has extensive experience working with diverse data sources including registries, epidemiologic cohorts, electronic health records, and administrative claims data. Dr. O'Brien teaches Analytic Methods in the Department of Population Health Sciences PhD program and has co-authored over 200 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals on topics ranging from epidemiologic methods, comparative effectiveness, and pragmatic clinical trials. She is an associate editor for *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*, Chair of the AHA QCOR Scientific & Clinical Education Lifelong Learning Committee, social media editor for *the Journal of the*

American Heart Association, and a fellow of the American Heart Association.



Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH

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Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH, is the Anna Gundlach Huber Professor in Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, a clinician–investigator at Dartmouth Health, and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. His work centers on patient-centered decision-making, particularly conversations around serious illness, aging, and end-of-life care, and on the use of video decision support tools to inform patients and families. He leads large, multi-site embedded pragmatic clinical trials, including ACP PEACE within the NIH Pragmatic Trials Collaboratory; his prior pragmatic trial work includes the PROVEN cluster-randomized trial in U.S. nursing homes.

He is co-founder and president of ACP Decisions, a nonprofit that develops evidence-based video tools to support shared decision-making, and he is the author of *The Conversation: A Revolutionary Plan for End-of-Life Care*. Previously, Dr. Volandes served on the faculty at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital for 20 years. A Brooklyn native and proud graduate of the New York City public schools, he earned an AB in philosophy from Harvard, an MD from Yale, and an MPH from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He trained in internal medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and was an Edmond J. Safra Faculty Fellow at Harvard’s Center for Ethics.



David Wetter, PhD, MS

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Dr. Wetter is the Jon M. and Karen Huntsman Presidential Professor at the University of Utah and Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI). He serves as Director of the Center for HOPE, a Senior Director at HCI, and Director for Community and Stakeholder

Engagement for Utah’s Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute. Dr. Wetter’s work is targeted at reducing health risk behaviors and outcomes through translational research. He has had continuous NIH funding for almost 30 years and has more than 300 publications. His research program has received awards from the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Society for Health Psychology of the American Psychological Association, American Society of Preventive Oncology, and AstraZeneca/Scientific American. Dr. Wetter has extensive leadership experience in team science, including leading numerous large, complex, multi-site, multi-project grants (e.g., center grants). Dr. Wetter’s team has developed highly effective healthcare system change and population health management interventions designed to increase utilization of evidence-based interventions, and has also been active in developing and implementing new behavior change approaches including digital health apps and counseling frameworks.



Qilu Yu, PhD

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Qilu Yu, Ph.D., is a statistician in the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) Office of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs. She serves as a senior collaborator and expert statistical advisor in areas relating to the development and application of statistical techniques to NCCIH-funded clinical trials. She also provides guidance and consultation on design, implementation, and analysis of extramural and intramural studies.

Dr. Yu has more than 15 years of experience planning and implementing the design and analyses of a broad range of clinical research studies. Areas of particular interest and expertise are leading the design of interventional clinical trials, including comparative effectiveness trials, longitudinal and survival analysis with missing data, as well as developing new structural equation modeling to interpret data. She is experienced with planning and analyses of small- to large-scale randomized trials and pragmatic clinical trials, including presentations on interventional clinical trials and methodology to senior stakeholders and the research community.